



# Memorandum

**TO:** RULES AND OPEN GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE  
**FROM:** Mayor Chuck Reed  
**SUBJECT:** GRANT AGREEMENT WITH JOINT VENTURE SILICON VALLEY  
**DATE:** May 30, 2013

**APPROVED:**

*Chuck Reed*

**DATE:**

*5/30/13*

## RECOMMENDATION

Forward a recommendation to City Council for the June 18, 2013 meeting to approve a grant agreement with Joint Venture Silicon Valley in the amount of \$75,000 from the Mayor's Office Budget.

## BACKGROUND

State fiscal and regulatory policies often impact the Silicon Valley business climate in ways that deter corporate investments in California. We often hear that no businesses are leaving California. However, we know of companies like Flextronics, Stion, SoloPower and Twin Creeks Technologies that have retained their headquarters and pilot production operations locally, but have also chosen to make significant investments to support volume production in states and cities that provided lower costs and barriers to development.

In November 2012, the Board of Directors of Joint Venture Silicon Valley approved the creation of the Silicon Valley Institute of Regional Studies. We would be well served to have a study undertaken by the Institute which will provide a definitive set of data that aggregates the impact of state taxes and regulations on location decisions, and how job creation in California could be further induced by changing or eliminating certain regulations.

City Council approval of this grant agreement is required since I serve as the Co-Chair of the Joint Venture Silicon Valley Board.